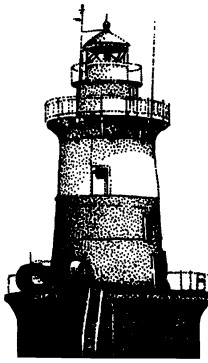


# ADVISORY COMMISSION ON COASTAL WATERS

## TOWN OF DARIEN

JOHN McDONALD, CHAIRMAN  
C. LINCOLN JEWETT, VICE CHAIRMAN  
WALTER RALEIGH, SHELLFISH  
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WILLIAM CAVERS  
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JON SCHOEDEL  
J. PALMER SPARKMAN  
MICHAEL WALLACE



EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS  
JANE BRANIGAN, PARK & REC COMM.  
TOM BELL, HARBOR MASTER  
CAPT. GARY PAVIA, POLICE DEPT.

Green's Ledge Light

### Minutes of the November 2, 2011 Meeting

Present: Chairman McDonald, Vice Chairman Jewett, Commissioners Cavers, Huffard, Kemp, and Raleigh.

Absent: Commissioners Munro, Schoudel, Sparkman, Wallace and Harbor Master Bell.

The meeting was called to order at 7:35pm by Chairman McDonald.

The minutes of the October 5, 2011 were approved.

#### Chairman's Report

Chairman McDonald noted that there would be two meetings in the next month that Commissioners were invited to attend:

- SoundWaters Annual Meeting, Wednesday November 16, 2011 at Cove Island, Stamford CT (6:00-8:00pm).
- CT Harbor Management Association Annual Meeting, Tuesday December 6, 2011 at the Woodwinds in Branford CT (6:30-9:00pm).

It was noted that there is a new bottom paint, Interlux Pacifica Plus, without copper, containing "Econea." Inquiries are being made as to whether this paint might fall outside of the scope of regulations being enforced by the CT DEEP concerning the control of the run-off of pressure washing boat bottoms.

The Chairman noted that Mike Preston had expressed an interest in the Commission.

#### Harbor Master Report

In that Harbor Master Bell was not able to attend the meeting, a report was not available for review.

#### Shellfish Report

Commissioner Raleigh noted that, in August, Pramer stocked the Great Island recreational bed with 60 bushels of oysters, and that in October these beds were opened, although the water had started to turn cold. These beds were open despite the continued closure of beds in Scotts Cove.

The Darien Health Department is inspecting for proper septic systems at all new or rebuilt housing sites (including those adjacent to Scotts Cove), including additions to existing housing. It should be noted that there is no town ordinance requiring inspection unless there is a change in the dwelling permit.

The closure of the Scotts Cove shellfishing area is attributed to problems with water quality, which may be attributed to either human or geese. The geology of the area (rocky ledges and little permeable soil) is also a factor contributing to the problem.

David Knauf, Director of Health, will be invited to attend the next meeting of the Commission, so that these matters may be discussed in more detail.

### **Long Island Sound Citizens Summit – October 28, 2011**

Chairman McDonald and Commissioner Kemp attended this meeting at Housatonic Community College, Bridgeport. The all-day event included representatives of organizations from CT and NY.

A summary of the meeting, prepared by Commissioner McDonald, will be attached to the minutes.

### **Mooring Specifications**

Commissioner Huffard reported on his review of the latest mooring specification's draft, identifying several areas for further study and consultation with other harbor's specifications. The topic will be revisited at the December meeting of the Commission.

### **Dredging Project**

Chairman McDonald recapped the issues related to a survey of the harbor channel's depth as a preliminary step for actual dredging. Informal surveys were conducted on October 13, 2010 and on October 4, 2011. Essentially no change was found in the soundings (+/- 6 inches) when comparing the two studies. The conclusion of these studies is that Darien's channels are now at 5 ½ - 6 ½ below Mean Low Water (MLW). This is 1 ½ - 2 ½ feet above the depth to which Darien's harbor was last dredged, to 8 feet below MLW, twelve years ago. The Selectmen have approved an allocation of \$5,300 for a professional survey of the bottom.

The Commission unanimously approved the motion (proposed by Commissioner Jewett, seconded by Commissioner Huffard) to move forward with a professional survey of the depth of the harbor channel as described in the consultant's report, using the funds currently approved by the Selectmen for this purpose.

### **Other Business**

Commissioner Jewett provided an update on the Darien Boat Club's activities related to their hook-up to the town's sewer line at Pear Tree Point, and the plan to implement a pump-out station to be located on the fuel dock.

No other new business was brought to the attention of the Commission.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:22pm. The next meeting of the Commission is scheduled for Wednesday, December 7th, 2011.

Respectfully submitted,

Frank B. Kemp, Clerk

Attachment:

- Report on LIS Citizens Summit – October 28, 2011 – The Soundvision Action Plan.

## Report on LIS Citizens Summit - October 28, 2011

### The Soundvision Action Plan

This meeting was at the Housatonic Community College, Bridgeport, CT. About 100 people attended the all day event from New York and Connecticut, government and others. Frank Kemp and I attended from the Advisory Commission. Wm Jessup was there from the Five Mile River Commission. The group was broken up into 4 parts discussing these four subjects:

1. Water Quality: A Clean and Healthy Sound
2. Tourism and Recreation: The Sound People Love
3. Habitat and Wildlife: The Sound Environment
4. Bi-State Working Group: Getting it Together

The keynote speaker was Senator Richard Blumenthal, CT.

Bridgeport Mayor Finch opened the meeting with a message that urbanizing was a solution to climate change, which is a serious threat. Suburbanizing used more BTUs than cities

Sen. Blumenthal talked about fuel cell production in CT; storm water control needed; better disposal of drugs to keep them out of the sewage and the Sound; and the ocean caucus in Congress.

The recreations work group, which I attended, covered the need for dredging harbors, lack of funding, the need for spatial planning in coastal areas, and other topics. One suggestion was the creation of artificial islands from dredge spoils. \$1.8 billion in LIS economy (marinas are a \$1.5 billion industry).

The BiState caucus composed of state legislators expressed a need for the two LIS states to work together, as they did on the Broadwater issue. They also covered dredging and the need to cooperate. They asked, what kind of solutions in this? Support \$ are tight at the states and federal levels. LIS is a health issue. Storm water runoff needs attention.

In open discussion, Roger Frate said that lobstering has gone from \$100 million to zero now. He blamed it on the NY spraying for mosquitoes. This was disputed to some effect. NY and CT have different laws, which should be resolved, on horseshoe crabs for instance.

Dave Carey, of CT Aquaculture, told me that he was opening Westport and Fairfield shellfish beds this week and would do the same for Darien next week after being closed for Irene. He also said that Guilford has good laws controlling septic systems. He said he would try to forward them to us.

Sandy McDonald